

In the Specification:

Please insert the following as the first section beginning on page 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/354,541, filed January 29, 2003, which is incorporated herein its entirety by reference.

Please replace the paragraph [0004], with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Typically, the lamp is driven by an inverter, which converts a DC signal to an AC signal, filters the AC signal, and transforms the voltage to the higher voltages required by a CCFL. Examples of such inverters are shown in U.S. Patent No. 6,114,8614 to Shannon et al., assigned to the assignee of the present invention and herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. Also, the MP1011, MP1015, and MP1018 products from Monolithic Power Systems, Inc. are exemplary of the type of inverter used to drive a CCFL.--

Please replace the paragraph [0010], with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As noted above, inverters for driving a CCFL typically comprise a DC to AC converter, a filter circuit, and a transformer. Examples of such circuits are shown in U.S. Patent No. 6,114,8614 to Shannon et al., assigned to the assignee of the present invention and herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. In addition, other prior art inverter circuits, such as a current-fed push-pull (Royer) oscillator, a constant frequency half-bridge (CFHB) circuit, or an inductive-mode half-bridge (IMHB) circuit,

may be used to drive a CCFL. The present invention may be used in conjunction with any of these inverter circuits, as well as other inverter circuits.—

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

--A full wave sense amplifier for sensing a periodic current flowing through a discharge lamp is disclosed. The full wave sense amplifier comprises a first circuit~~means~~ for sensing the positive going portion of the periodic current. The amplifier also includes a second circuit~~means~~ for sensing the negative going portion of the periodic current. Finally, an output circuit~~means~~ for combining the negative going portion and the positive going portion into a current flow signal is provided. --